

Lava Beds National Monument PO Box 1240 Tulelake, CA 96134

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Lava Beds National Monument News Release

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At Lava Beds, Little Actions Go a Long Way Towards a Greener Park

TULELAKE, California— Earth Day is April 22, however every day is Earth Day at Lava Beds National Monument. Although officially designated once a year, park rangers at Lava Beds work year round to protect the natural resources of the park.

The park has taken action to reduce emissions resulting from park activities through increasing vehicle efficiency, reducing waste, and lowering energy use. Climate change education has increased for park staff, visitors, and members of the local community. As the park moves forward, they are constantly reevaluating costs and efficiencies to improve for the future.

Lava Beds staff use three electric vehicles for transportation and hauling loads in the campground, headquarters, and visitor center area. These vehicles are quiet and produce no emissions. The park also has a no idle policy. The engine of gas powered vehicles must be turned off after a maximum of 10 seconds of nonuse. This lowers emissions and increases visitor and employee enjoyment of the park by reducing noise and exhaust smell. Efficient lighting is also installed throughout Lava Beds. Not only does this lighting reduce costs and use less electricity, but it also provides for a more natural night sky. Stargazing at Lava Beds National Monument is spectacular.

You can take action too! There are many small things you can do every day to help protect the Earth for future generations. Making more efficient use of your vehicle can be as simple as grouping your errands into one trip instead of multiple small drives. Recycling can help reduce waste. Keeping your house a few degrees cooler in the winter and warmer in the summer can help reduce your energy needs and costs. It is the little things that let the Earth know you care!

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Lava Beds National Monument, established in 1925, is a land of turmoil, both geologic and historic. Over the last half-million years, volcanic eruptions have created a rugged landscape dotted with diverse volcanic features. Lava tube caves, Native American sites, historic battlefields and a high desert wilderness experience await you!

For more information about visiting Lava Beds National Monument, call 530-667-8113, email labe_interpretation@nps.gov, or go to www.nps.gov/labe.

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